



The Queen Elizabeth
Academy



TQEA Newsletter: Friday 19th December

Issue 12



The Queen Elizabeth Academy

“We Can and We Will”



Head of Academy Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our special Christmas edition of the academy newsletter!

The articles really show off the wonderful educational and cultural experiences our students have experienced recently, reflecting a term filled with achievement and celebration. I am incredibly proud to lead such a dedicated academy community. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to delivering an excellent education for our students and the TQEA community.

I had great pleasure attending the TQEA Spotlight Showdown on Wednesday and seeing our Performance and Creative departments coming together to provide a wonderful showcase of extraordinary talent. As someone who grew up surrounded by Music and Art, I truly

believe in the importance of the Performance and Creative curriculums. Events like these demonstrate the value of the arts in building students' confidence, resilience and friendships. If you have not had a chance to watch the compilation video on social media put together by Mr Stewart, I encourage you to watch it. It is truly inspirational and heart-warming.

December has brought many enriching opportunities for our students and this newsletter goes into detail about these events, sharing quotes and photographs. I would like to thank every member of staff who has put in a huge time and effort to organise these events as without them these amazing opportunities would not happen. I am incredibly lucky to have such a superb body of staff in the academy and the support, dedication and experiences they offer to our young people every day is significant. At this Christmas time, I would like to extend my thanks to them for everything that they do and to wish every member of staff, on behalf of our students and community, a restful and peaceful Christmas with their families.

As we approach the holidays, we bid farewell to several valued colleagues. Miss Harris and Miss Fildes, who joined as Apprentice Teaching Assistants in September 2024, have completed their apprenticeships and move on to exciting new roles where they will continue to develop and support young people in their education. Mrs Griffiths, our SENCO, is retiring and we thank her for all of the support she has given to the young people of the TQEA community and the significant SEND knowledge that she has brought to the academy. We wish her a very happy and relaxing retirement. We also say goodbye to Ms Kat Rowan, our Curriculum Leader for Science, who has been with the academy since 2017. Ms Rowan will be very much missed by the staff and students at TQEA and we thank her for all of her work both with developing Science at TQEA and across the academy and community. We wish her all the very best in her new role and her new school.

Finally, I would like to thank you as parents and carers for your partnership. Together, we support every child to achieve their best. The greatest gift we can provide for our young people is an excellent education and the best possible outcomes to secure their further educational courses, jobs and futures. In order to support our return in January, please can I ask you to refer to Mrs Walker's letter send home via the My Child At School app with regards to our expectations for uniform and ensure that your child returns to the academy in January demonstrating our TQEA value of Pride and fully prepared for the day.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas!



Academics

Attendance Information





Attendance Matters



Attendance remains a very high priority for us as a community. If students are not in the academy, we are not able to help to support them or teach them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. It is vital that all children are in the academy every day. It is vital all students attend their lessons on time.

Year to Date Attendance: 90.8%

Top 10 Tutors of the Year so far:

7CMO

7DTI

7RSA

8MAL

8RJG

9JXP

11NMT

11MW

7BXM

7SJ

Prioritising Attendance: Every Day Counts!

Talent Showdown 2025

The academy was buzzing with excitement as we proudly hosted our second annual TQEA Spotlight Showdown talent competition! The audience were truly blown away by the incredible range of performances from 12 talented contestants representing every year group across the academy.

Our reigning champion, Honey Yeatman, delivered a stunning opening performance before graciously passing the Spotlight Trophy to this year's winner, Ivy Deakin (Year 8). Ivy's standout performance earned her a £50 voucher, and her name will now be permanently engraved on the Spotlight Showdown trophy, proudly displayed in reception.

Second place went to Ella Deeming and Bethany Lowe (Year 10), with Harry Bird (Year 8) completing the podium in third place. A huge well done to all performers for their confidence, creativity and commitment on stage.





















Art Competition Celebration

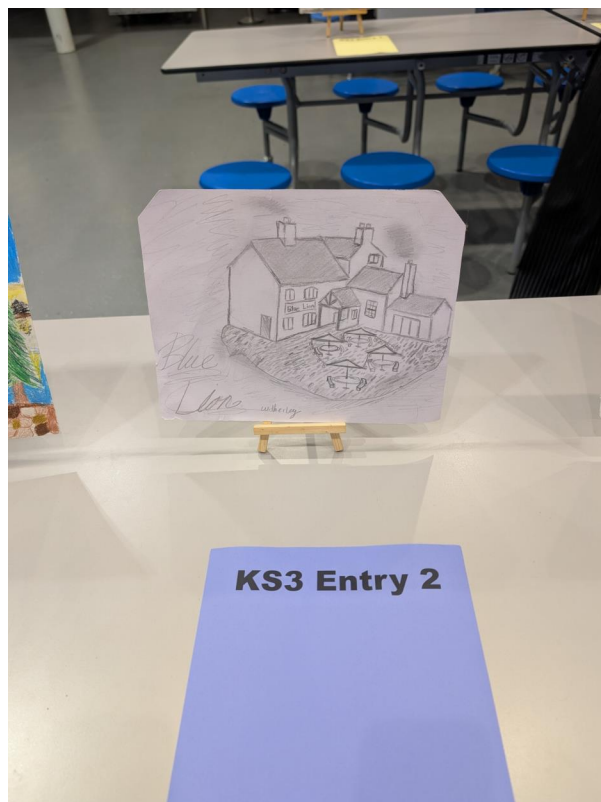
We were delighted to host an exciting whole-school art competition, with KS3 and KS4 students competing in separate categories to showcase their creativity, skill and imagination. The standard of work submitted was exceptionally high, making the judging process incredibly challenging and demonstrating the depth of artistic talent across both key stages.

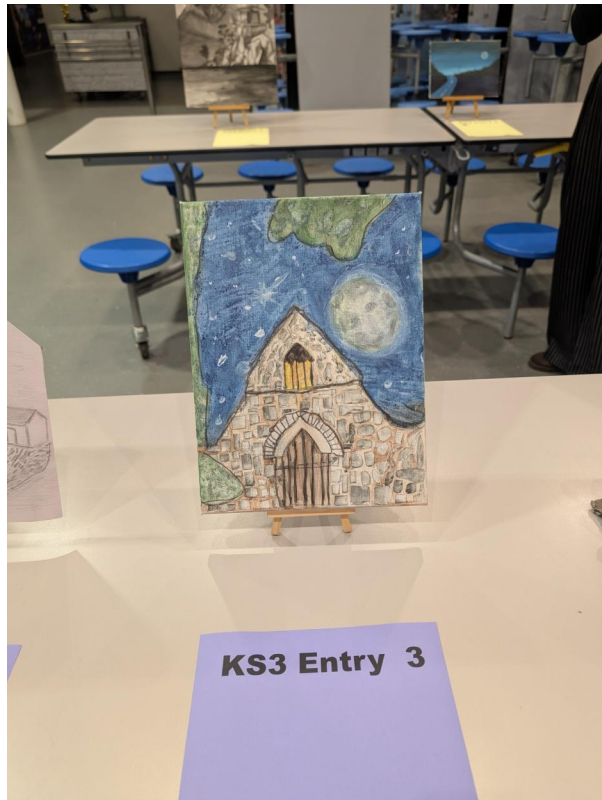
What made this competition particularly special was that the final decision was placed in the hands of the audience. Visitors to the TQEA Talent Show were invited to view the artwork and vote for their favourite pieces. The competition was extremely tight, with many outstanding entries receiving strong support. After all votes were counted, we were thrilled to announce Bonnie as the KS3 winner and Noemi as the KS4 winner. Both students impressed the audience with their originality and technical ability. As winners, **Bonnie and Noemi** each received an art kit, a voucher and their names will now be forever engraved on the school art trophy, marking their achievement and leaving a legacy for future students to aspire to.

Congratulations to all students who took part. Your enthusiasm and creativity made this competition a huge success and a wonderful celebration of art within our school.





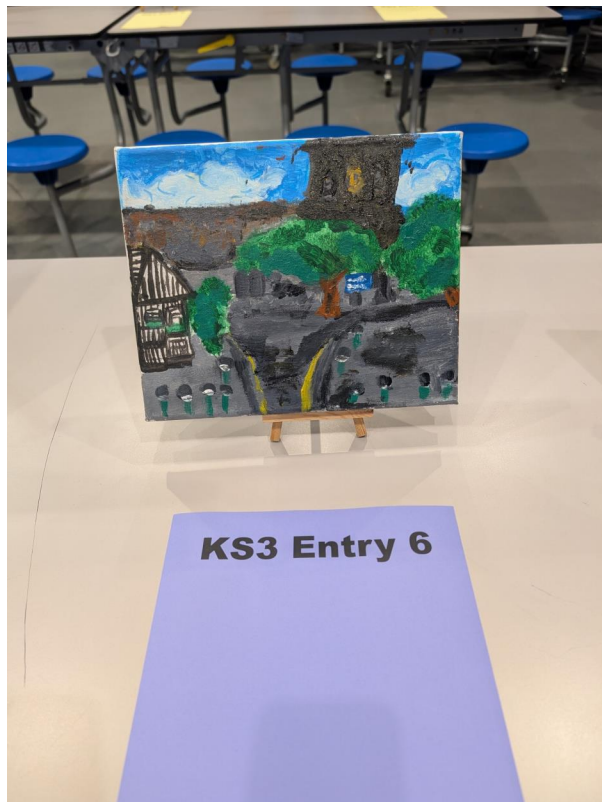


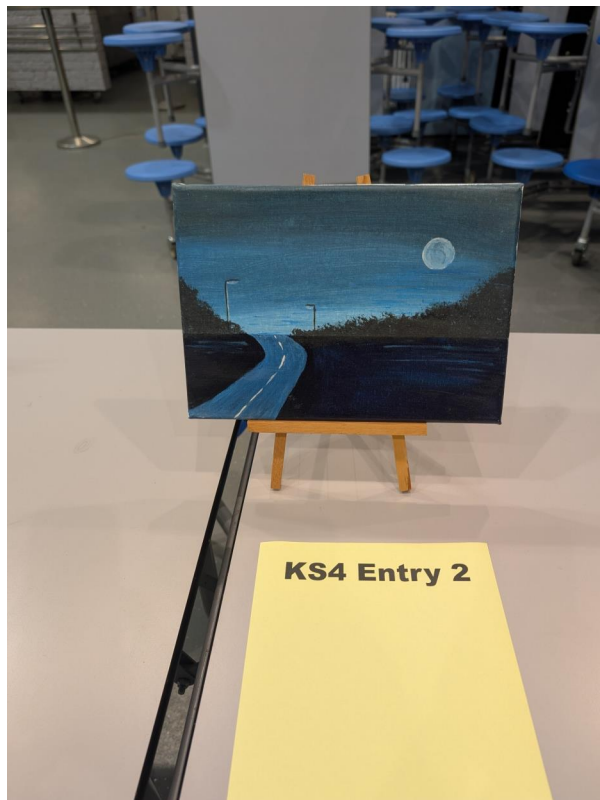
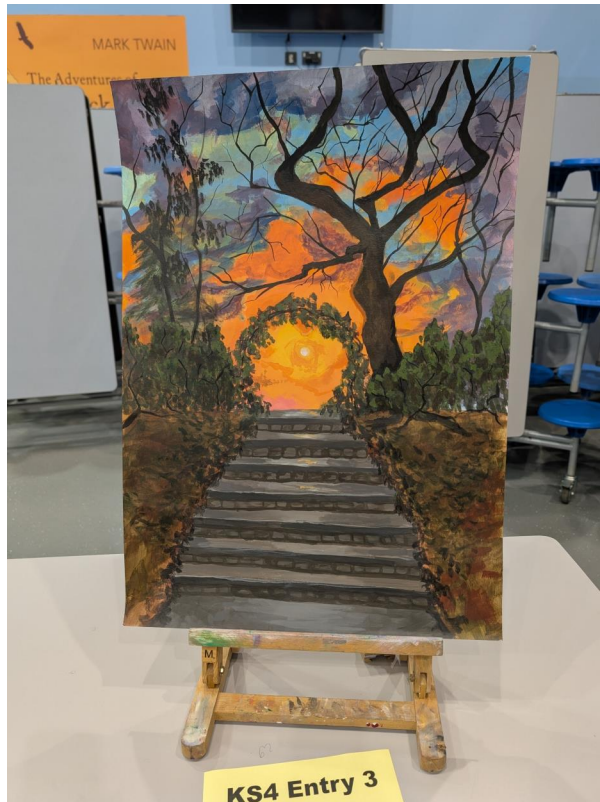


KS3 Entry 3

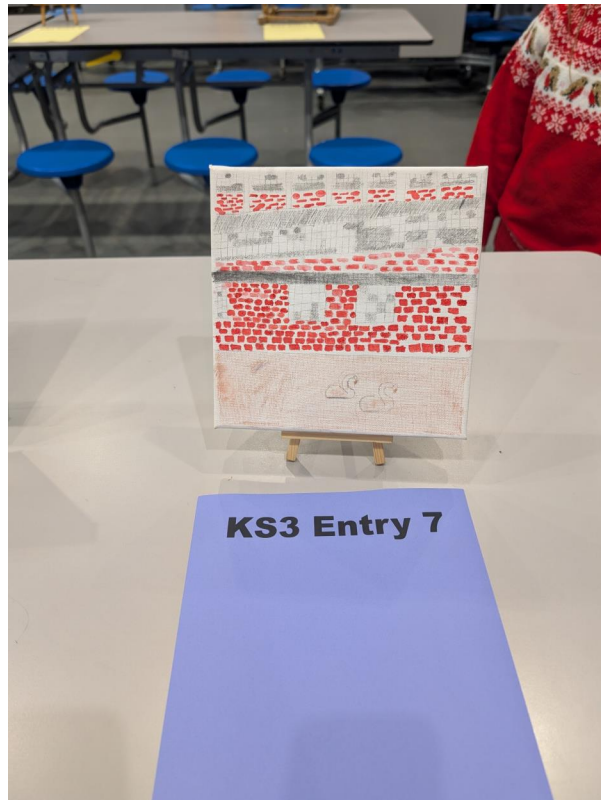


KS3 Entry 4









Year 10 Warwick University Visit

On 10th December 75 year 10 students visited Warwick University to increase their awareness of what life at university is like. During the day they participated in a series of workshops to educate them about student loans, budgeting for student life, the courses and societies on offer and also were given a tour of the university campus. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and left with a greater understanding of what university can offer them. They were inspired by the visit which increased their aspirations for their future.

Mr Webb - Careers / Teacher of PE





Year 11 Mock Interview Day

On 16th December all of our year 11 students participated in a practice 'mock interview' event. During prep time in the weeks leading up to the event students were supported in filling out a job application form and practicing their interview techniques. They were then interviewed by one of our wonderful volunteers for the job they applied for. The students were then given some feedback on how they could improve their application and interview skills. As always, the event was a wonderful opportunity for our students. They thoroughly

enjoyed the experience and were grateful for the feedback they were given. There was a real buzz around the school during the day, students were comparing their interview scores and sharing their feedback. It was also wonderful to see so many of them make the effort to attend school in their own smart/formal clothing for their interviews. We are incredibly proud of their professional conduct during the day.

Mr Webb - Teacher of PE and Careers



On Tuesday, it was all about the future as students took part in Mock Interview Day. Dressed smartly and acting professionally, Year 11s impressed staff and interviewers alike by giving their very best answers and demonstrating confidence, maturity and ambition. It was a valuable experience that helped prepare them for college, apprenticeships and beyond.

Mrs Arnold - Assistant Principal - Raising Standards

Year 11

This week, our Year 11 students have been fully immersed in their Turbo Week timetable, making the most of a varied and exciting programme designed to support both their academic progress and future aspirations.

The week began with a packed Monday, where students focused on a range of subjects including Art, Maths, Geography, History, Modern Foreign Languages and Business. This intensive start set the tone for the week, encouraging students to engage positively and make the most of their learning time.

Wednesday and Thursday saw students taking part in a variety of subject masterclasses, including A-level taster sessions, English and many other subjects. These sessions gave students the opportunity to deepen their understanding, challenge themselves academically and gain insight into post-16 study options.

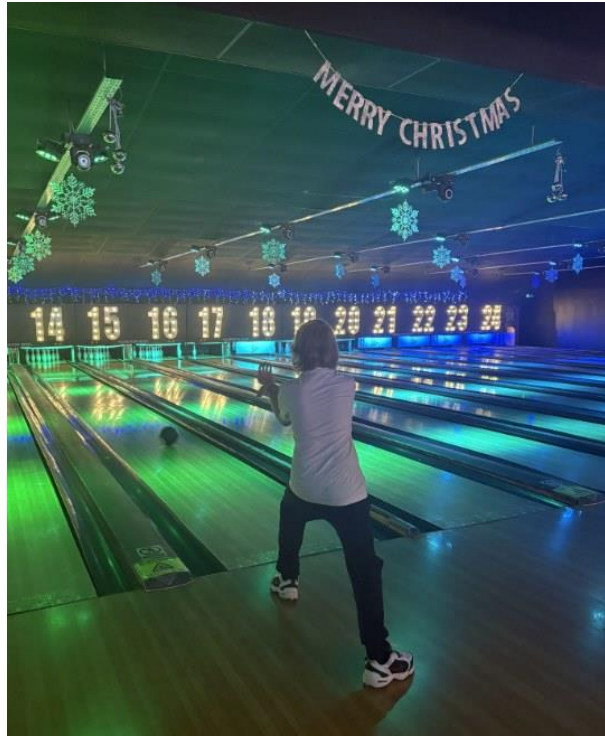
Thursday afternoon provided a well-earned break, as students and staff enjoyed a bowling trip together. This was a great chance to relax, have fun and celebrate the strong sense of community within the year group.

To round off the week, Friday will bring everyone together for a year group breakfast and quiz. This final event will allow students to reflect on a successful week, enjoy time with their peers and finish Turbo Week on a positive and memorable note.

Overall, Turbo Week has been a fantastic opportunity for our Year 11 students to work hard, think ahead and enjoy time together as a year group. Well done to all involved!

Mrs Arnold - Assistant Principal / Raising Standards





Rewards



1 - Ms Shepherd - Associate Assistant Principal/ Curriculum leader of Maths

TQEA Reward Cinema

On Thursday the TQEA Reward cinema opened for the day welcoming over 450 pupils through its doors. Pupils with no negative for the term were invited to join us for a showing of the Christmas Classic - Home Alone, this was chosen by the pupils in a vote for their favourite Christmas Film. A well deserved break for all of our hard working pupils who have consistently showed our values of Pride, Endeavour, Resilience and Kindness. Well done, and have a fantastic Christmas.



Here is a selection of photos, of our end of term award winners, prizes included £25 and £10 amazon vouchers, and well as a very popular chocolate biscuit selection

Prize drawer were held for pupils with no negative points this term, winning emerald ticket for most achievement points

Finally pupils were award vouchers for achieving the most points for each of our character values Pride, Endeavour, Resilience and Kindness



Joyful Learning

Each week we would like to share with the ***joyful learning*** taking place in the academy and this week has been no exception. Please enjoy looking at some examples of the fantastic work your young people have produced.

Christmas Card Competition

We were delighted with the response to this year's Christmas Card Competition. Students submitted a wide range of creative thoughtful and highly skilled designs, making the judging process incredibly difficult. The overall standard was extremely high, with many demonstrating strong drawing skills, imagination and a clear understanding of festive themes.

After careful consideration, three standout designs were selected as our top entries: Macie-Jane Balmer Yr9, Kira Sedgefield Yr. 7 and Leonard Moore Yr8. Each of these students produced impressive outcomes that showed originality, attention to detail and a strong visual impact.

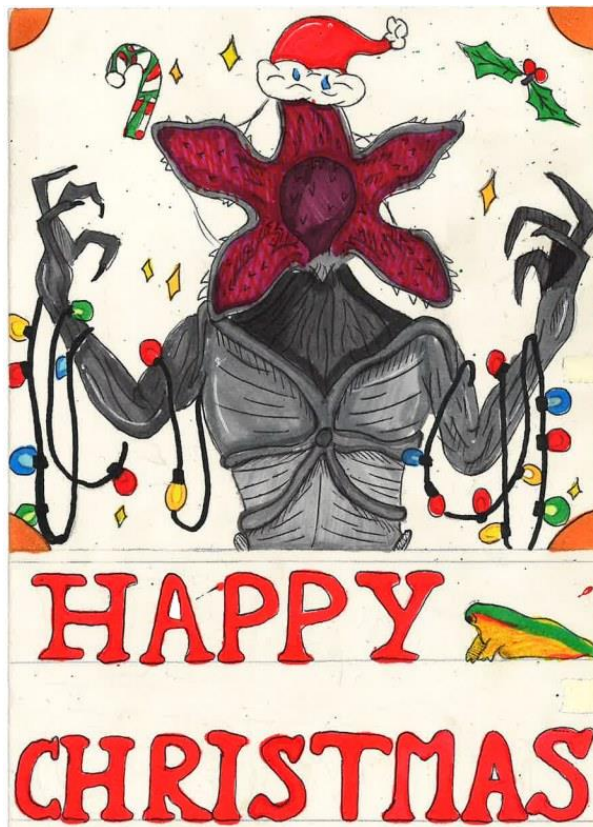
The overall winner was Macie-Jane Balmer, whose beautiful design featured a traditional Christmas tree scene. The composition was well balanced, festive and carefully executed, making it a worthy winner.

As a reward, Macie received a £10 voucher, an art kit and several printed copies of their Christmas Card to share with friends and family at home.

Congratulations to all students who entered the competition and well done to everyone involved for such a fantastic range of festive artwork.

Mrs Bennett - Curriculum Leader of Art





Year 7 & 8 Girls Futsal Tournament

Yr7 and 8 girls Futsal Tournament two of three saw TQEA enter two teams (Lionesses and Wildcats) (due to the talent and high numbers of students available!)

They all played excellently throughout the tournament scoring some fantastic goals, great saves and played well as a team throughout. One team (Wildcats) left the night as champions not conceding a goal all night and winning every game. Our other team (Lionesses) only lost one game (against the Wildcats) and finished 2nd overall!

Super proud of their approach, energy, and behaviour throughout the tournament so far. With one final tournament to go, this will conclude the futsal indoor tournaments for the season with outdoor 7 aside competitions starting in March! Achievement points and medals awarded to all.

Miss Wilson - Curriculum lead for PE and Performing Arts



Students were tasked with designing a **Science** themed Christmas Card. With the winning students being able to pick a sloth from Miss Rowan's collection to keep.

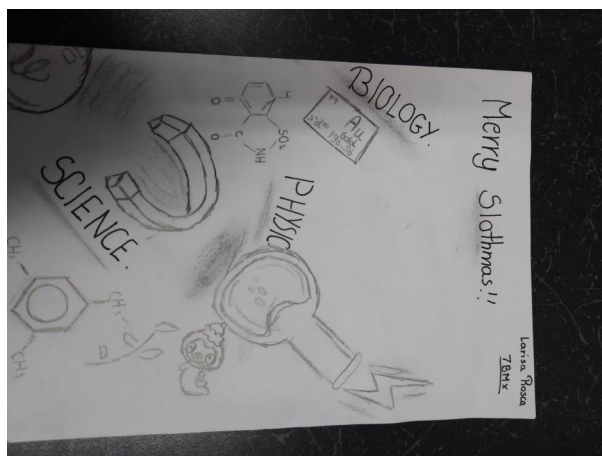
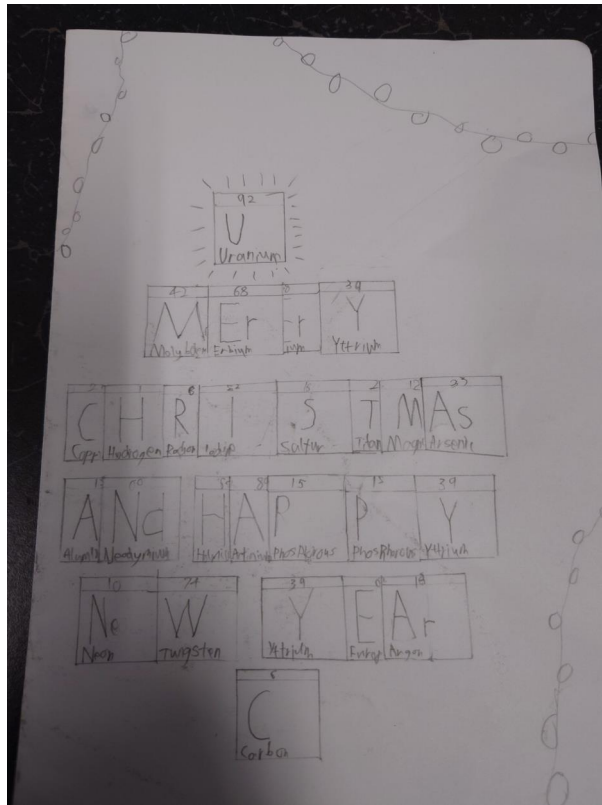
A range of years entered with winners in almost every year group.

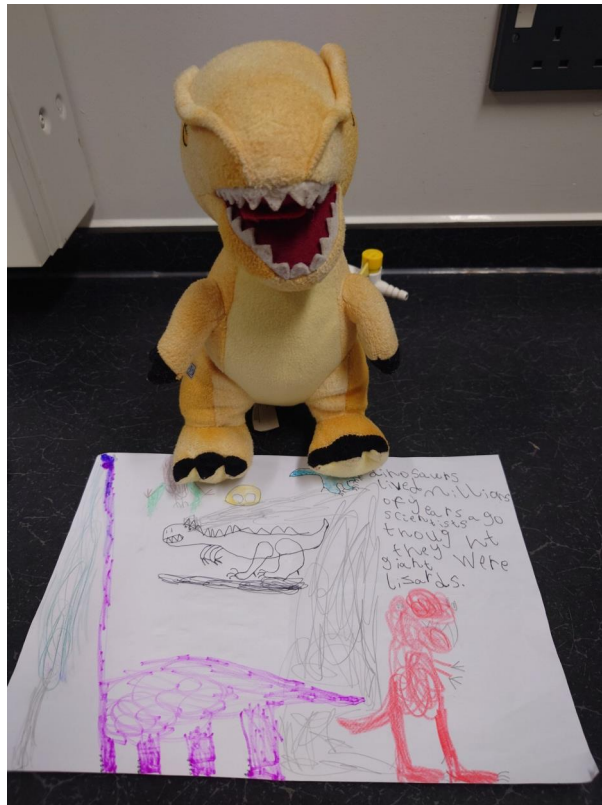
The top entry was Emily Lindner in 11NMT, but there was some very strong competition, particularly the 'begging-for-a-sloth-style' from a number of 8MAL!

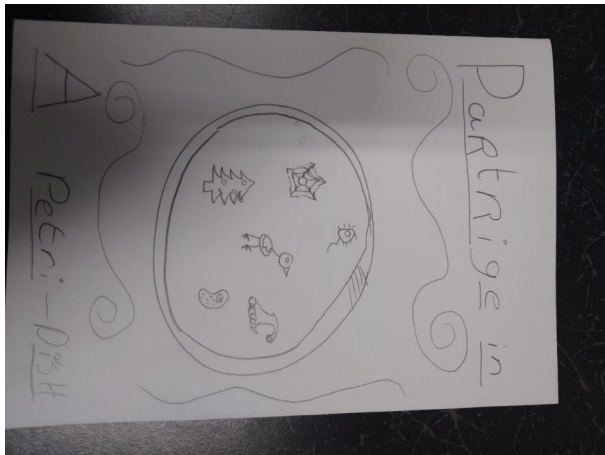
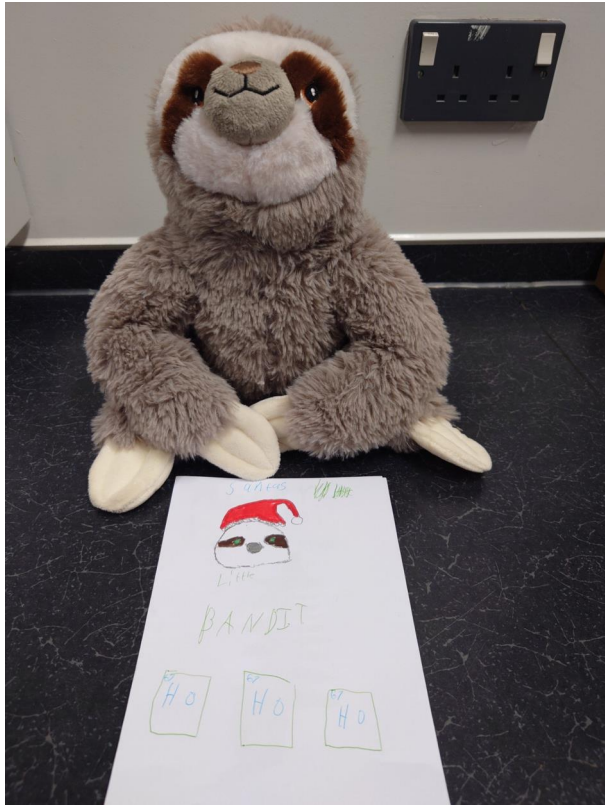
The winning entries can be seen on the on Science dept Instagram at **tqea.science**

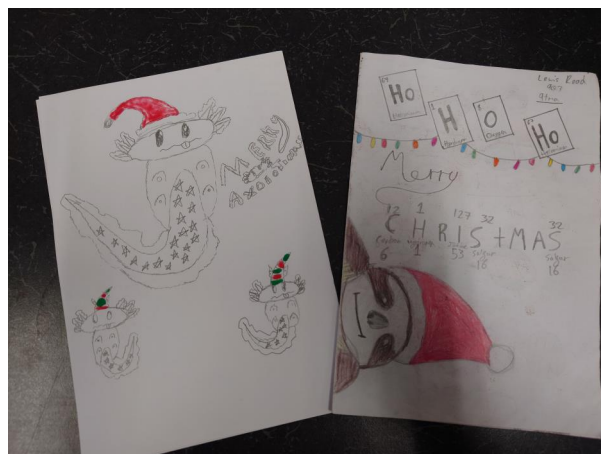
Well done guys, and give those sloths a happy home.....

Miss Rowan - Curriculum leader for Science









8SK Form Family Lunch

8SK recently celebrated their form community with a special family lunch. The occasion provided an opportunity for students to come together, share food, participate in games, engage in creative crafts, and enjoy each other's company. This event served as a meaningful way to strengthen relationships and celebrate the sense of belonging within the form.

Mrs Knight - Form Tutor and Curriculum lead for PHSE







Year 7 Visit to St Mary's Church

Year 7 pupils visited St Mary's Church in Atherstone to take part in a special Christmas service. Students enjoyed musical performances and presentations, and learned about the true meaning of Christmas for Christians. The visit was a valuable opportunity for reflection and learning, and we would like to thank St Mary's Church for welcoming us so warmly.







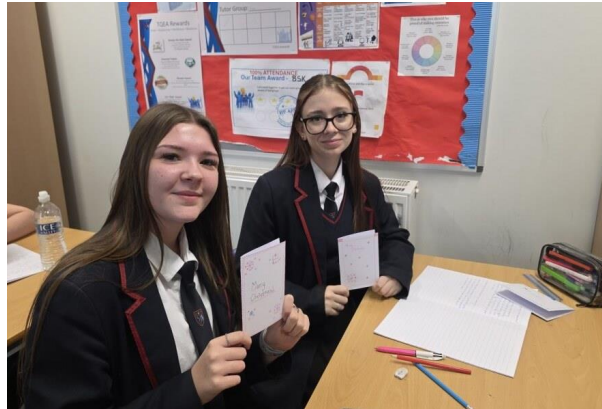
Christmas Cards

Students at The Queen Elizabeth Academy have been demonstrating a strong sense of community through their recent PSHE lessons, which focused on the importance of belonging within any community. As part of this initiative, students created personalised Christmas cards for residents at a local care home. The cards were delivered earlier this week, and the residents were delighted to receive such thoughtful messages. They expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the time and effort our students dedicated to making each card special.

Mrs Knight - Curriculum Lead for PHSE









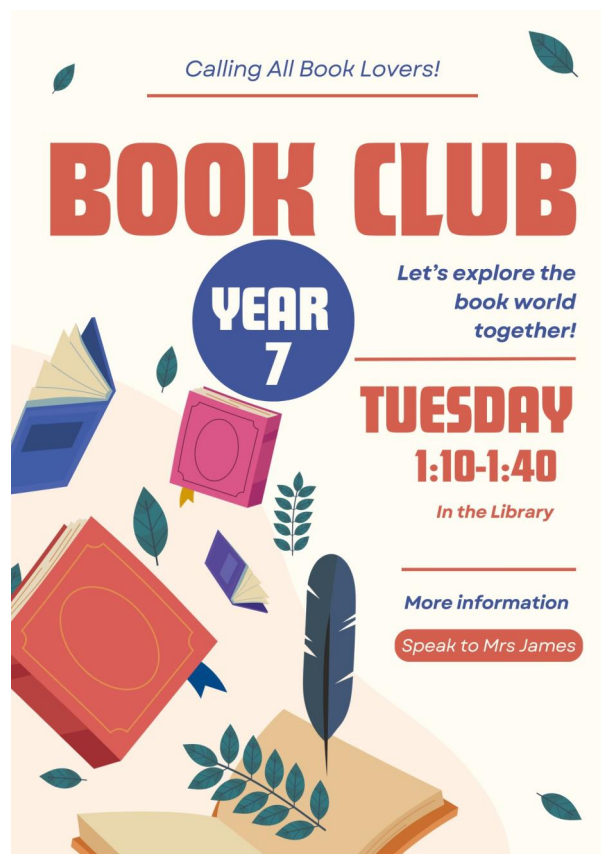


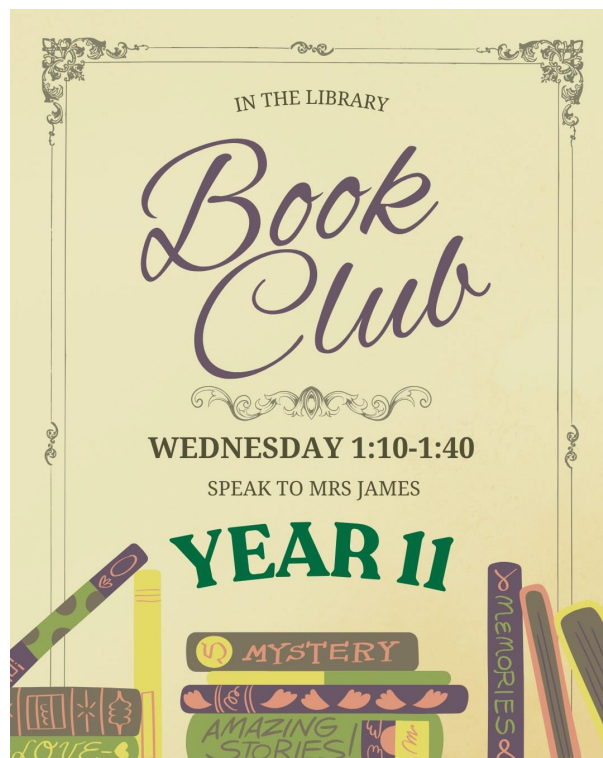
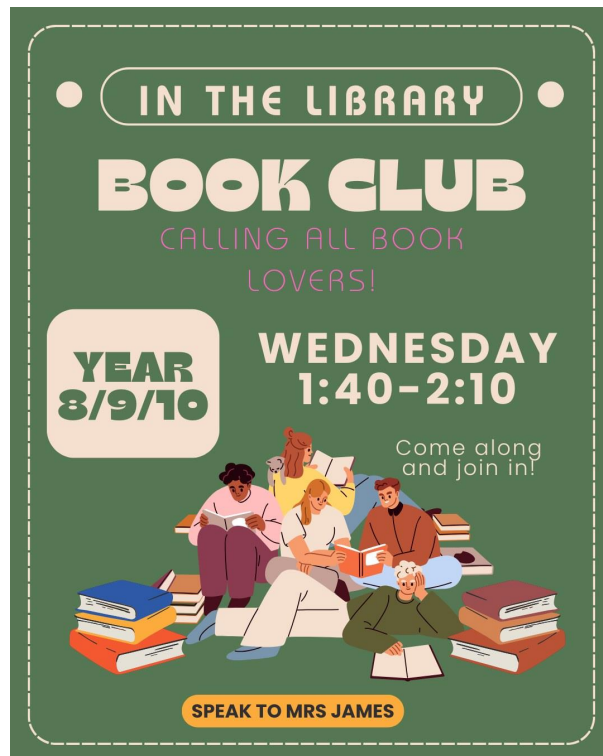


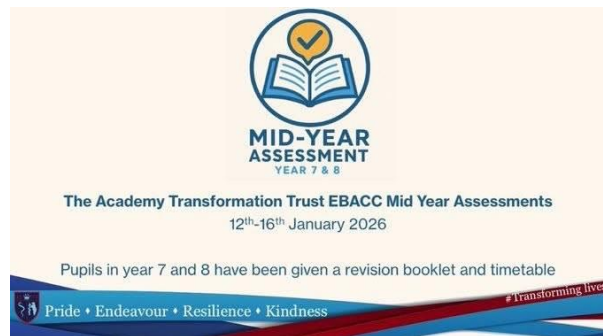
Notices

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Being a governor is a very rewarding experience. You will be part of a team who work to improve the life chances of our students/pupils,


provide challenge and support to the academy and strengthen community links. No experience is needed, and you will learn new skills whilst giving something back to your local area. Our governors meet 4 times a year and ideally visit the academy once per term to see school life, discuss aspects of the academy's provision and/or attend events. If you would like to apply, please notify Jo Bickley via email jo.bickley@attrust.org.uk or ask for a self-nomination form at reception completed by the close of school on **Thursday 8th January 2026** with all completed nominations received by **Tuesday 13th January 2026**.







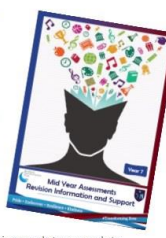
2 - Mid Year assessments Years 7 & 8



Year 7 and 8 Mid Year Assessments

In line with all academies in Academy Transformation Trust, our Year 7/8 pupils will sit mid-year assessments in the EBACC subjects (Mathematics, Science, English, History, Geography and Languages). These assessments have been designed to allow pupils to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the curriculum taught so far, and they will enable teachers to clearly identify any misconceptions or gaps in the foundational knowledge pupils are learning. These exams will take place in lessons between 12th-16th January. All pupils have been given a timetable to show when their exam are, as well as a revision booklet containing important information, and revision tasks to complete, there is also an additional booklet of Mathematics work to complete.

We would like to wish all pupils good luck in these assessments and look forward to them demonstrating the new skills and knowledge they have learnt during this term.



Upcoming Events



5th January 2026 - Teachers Training Day

6th January 2026 - All Year groups welcomed back.

8th January 2026 - Y11 BTEC Sport External Exam

12th - 16th January 2026 - EBACC Mid Year Assessments begin Year 7 & 8

22nd January 2026 - Progress Evening Year 9

5th February 2026 - Year 9 Options Evening

9th - 13th February 2026 - Year 11 Mock Exams

12th February 2026 - Year 8 HPV vaccinations

12th February 2026 - Year 10 Progress Evening

13th February 2026 - Break up for half term.